



***Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force***  
**Meeting minutes**  
**March 26, 2008**

**Summary**

---

**Methamphetamine Task Force Members Present (14):**

Aimee Amado (Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T., Arizona Department of Economic Security Arizona)  
Anthony Coulson (Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration)  
Billie Grobe ( Chief Probation Officer, Yavapai County)  
Brian Wilcox (Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau, Arizona Department of Public Safety)  
Carol Chicharello (AHCCCS, Tribal Relations Liaison)  
Dean Wright (Compliance Officer, Arizona State Board of Pharmacy)  
Hope McDonald Lonetree (Councilwoman, 20th Navajo Nation Council)  
John Dempsey (Chief Administrator, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections)  
Kathy Karam (Program Manager, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)  
Pat Bencheck (Executive Director, COPE Behavioral Services)  
Joann Kennedy for Rich Rosky (HIDTA Coordinator, NMCI Southwest Meth Initiative)  
Steve Tyrrell (Program Manager, Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts)  
Lt Kelly Lane for Terry Rozema (Commander, Pima County/Tucson Metropolitan Counter Narcotics Alliance)  
Tracy Hastings (Lead Substance Abuse Clinical Advisor, Arizona Department of Health Services)  
Warren Koontz (Inter Tribal Council)

**Members Absent (8):**

Honorable Barbara LaWall (Pima County Attorney, Chair)  
Don Stapley (County Supervisor, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors)  
Len Ditmanson (M.D., Medical Director, COPE Behavioral Services)  
Jane Irvine (Director, Community Outreach and Education, Arizona Attorney General's Office)  
Kathy Rice (Prevention Education Specialist, Arizona Department of Education)  
Sylvia Homer (Colorado River Indian Tribe Methamphetamine Coalition)  
Scott Cocuzza (Business and Community Member)  
Steve Schieman (Investigations Officer, Target Corporation)

**Public members ( 5):**

Gordon Block, Yuma County  
Elizabeth Castaneda-Jackson, Yuma County  
John Concannon, Yuma County  
Ann Hendricks, White Mountain Apache Tribe  
Juliet Collatete, White Mountain Apache Tribe

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. O'Connor called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. O'Connor welcomed task force members and recognized newer members. Members and the public provided individual introductions.

Ms. O'Connor referred to Mr. Copple for an exciting announcement. Mr. Copple noted that Arizona received national recognition for the Meth Action Plan. He stated that Arizona has been chosen as one of the seven states for the COPS Grant. Among other benefits, Arizona will have the opportunity to call on technical assistance services. Mr. Copple commented that the creation of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership is one of the recommendations that other states are looking to, in addition to the Meth Task Force's long term commitment to the issue.

Ms. O'Connor states that it is a great opportunity in identifying where we can benefit from additional resources. Ms. O'Connor thanked members for all of the hard work and noted that Chief of Staff Dennis Burke and Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) chair has recognized their hard work

### **APPROVAL OF 12/13/07 MINUTES**

Ms. O'Connor referred members to the minutes for review, no corrections were noted. Mr. Coulson motions to approve minutes as written and the motion was seconded by Mr. Dempsey and was carried with no objections.

### **DATA SNAPSHOT-METH USE IN ARIZONA**

Ms. O'Connor introduced Ms. Jeanne Blackburn from the Division for Substance Abuse Policy from the Governor's Office to provide data updates on methamphetamine use in the state.

Ms. Blackburn referred members to the Data Snapshot Report, that is waiting for approval and not yet for public consumption. The report included data from august to October 2007, covered consumption, treatment, hospital discharges and emergency department visits and arrests and seizures. She notes that the annual report may be much more informative than the quarterly to the Task Force. Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network looked at percentage of adult female and male arrestees (self report). For treatment data (treatment episodes data stet, Arizona Arrestee Reporting information network looked at percentage of adult female/ males and percentage of juvenile arrestees. A graphic representation of percent of male arrestees testing positive for drugs (meth) has increased from 2004 and overall has decreased over 07...2004-2006, first quarter of 07 data is missing, since during this time this was a pilot program.

Also a graphic representation for females showing that methamphetamine use has decreased. Graphic representation of methamphetamine use among male arrestees and female arrestees was discussed. Graphic representation of juvenile arrestees that felt the need for treatment compared with juveniles currently receiving treatment, showing a gap between the two. DHS provided Arizona health stats and vital stats on Emergency room visits for methamphetamine use by payer, sex, age group and hospital discharges by category AHCCCS and self-pay. Arrest and seizure data provided by ACJC showed graphic representation on arrests related to methamphetamine sale/purchase, possession, manufacture, use and transportation; the most arrest made for possession. Ms. Blackburn mentions she hopes to get full report approved and available for release within the next few weeks. The epidemiology group plans to do these reports for full year, as opposed to quarterly to ensure the data is useful.

Mr. Coulson asks in emergency room data if the primary issue was methamphetamine. Yes (overdose or specific reaction), Ms. Blackburn explains this data not include, methamphetamine as secondary reason for Emergency room visit. Mr. Coulson asked Ms. Karam if those stats were only for 16 task forces. Ms Karam says it include some HIDTA counties. Ms. O'Connor says the trend for methamphetamine use goes down, yet for women, cocaine use was going. Ms. Blackburn says difficult to tell with this quarterly data only; methamphetamine is still the drug of choice for women. Mr. Copple asks do you have National methamphetamine use data compared to Arizona stats in the report. Ms. Blackburn says not necessarily national tracking data system like A.A.R.I.N. Jim says in recommendations that A.A.R.I.N is a good recovery, as A.D.A.M was lost

Ms. O'Connor noted that epidemiology group has worked hard on this report and states that the report will be sent out to members. She notes that if you see any gaps in report or something missing; let us know because we want it to be useful for agencies and communities. Mr. Copple notes that may need to modify recommendations, add recommendations...please refer to report and look for gaps to help inform the types of updates and recommendations to include.

Ms. Blackburn notes that data sources were selected based on sources that collected on a quarterly basis and the group does this on a yearly basis more types of data sources can be included. She encouraged members to contact her if questions or comments

### **REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Ms. O'Connor noted the bulk of the agenda will be spent on this discussion. Mr. Copple would like to take the opportunity to look at the recommendations and modifications to the reporting process to ensure we are providing substantial outcomes. Mr. Copple noted that it is unnecessary to review every recommendation and refers members to the document in their meeting packets that list the status reported on recommendations for the year by the responsible agencies.

It is noted that the Governor and Chair LaWall have really made strides to implement recommendations and have outcomes. Mr. Copple reviews some of the significant outcomes...Ms. O'Connor was appointed as the single point of contact for substance abuse issue for the state and the creation of ASAP. Mr. Copple and his staff are working to compile an annual report on outcomes for the Task Force. Mr. Copple noted that the previous reporting documents were long on strategy and process, but short on outcomes. He encouraged members to work to provide more outcomes that include data and noted that the Governor will be reading the report and will want to know why it's all process.

Mr. Copple referred members to the report and requested that members get very specific in the reporting, so that numbers are provided. Mr. Dempsey commented that when there are several agencies working on a recommendation, that responsibilities be clear. Mr. Copple stressed the importance of coordination and communication between the responsible parties; and responded to questions stating that when reports come in, information and data is collapsed. Mr. Copple stated that AZ is unique in that this process is an experiment and we should be prepared to modify the different components. Mr. Copple provided the example of originally not knowing whether or not organizations/agencies were communicating horizontally, he says it's a piece that is missing.

- **MODIFICATIONS IN REPORTING PROCESS**

Mr. Copple referred members to the packet for the reporting tool for year 2. He encouraged members to only report current month's activities and to craft the report in outcomes based language. He also stated that going into year 2, it is important to get a better sense of what the barriers are to carrying out the recommendations. Additionally, he noted that it is important to note the anticipated date in completing the action step.

Mr. Copple noted that Ms. O'Connor's meetings with the Governor, it is necessary to drill down and provide significant outcomes. Ms. O'Connor notes that the new reporting form is an attempt to make the process simpler and more outcomes driven. Mr. Copple added that the process type of outcome was virtually eliminated. Ms. Kreibich noted to members that she would send out the electronic version of the updated monthly reporting form and reminded members that the report is due the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month. Mr. Copple noted that for year two, more thoughts should be placed on cross agency collaboration.

- **METH TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT TO GOVERNOR**

Mr. Copple circulated draft of annual report. He called attention to specific items and timelines. Mr. Copple reviewed the APPO (Audience, Purpose, Performance Objectives, and Outcomes) process. He discussed the different variables and how they go back to providing an outcomes driven approach. He reminded members that the primary audience for the report is the Governor and that it will be dispersed to the general public in April. He stated that the report mostly provides a snapshot of Arizona's progress on the recommendations, and noted that Ryan Streeter is the principal writer on the

document. Mr. Copple noted that if there are any changes that you would like to make, submit to Briana Kreibich by close of business on Monday March 31, 2008. Ryan noted that a good annual report is more than just activities listed, but additionally impact outcomes for example...number of people trained, served, etc. Mr. Copple stated that we want to ensure that we don't miss the significant agency changes. Ms. O'Connor noted that part of the reason for the aggressive deadline is because of the Crystal Darkness Campaign upcoming and the upcoming Substance Abuse Conference.

- **RECOMMENDATIONS OR MODIFICATIONS IN THE STATEWIDE PLAN**

Mr. Copple noted that for the next meeting, members will have the opportunity to review the different recommendations and suggest changes and modifications. Mr. Copple encouraged members to return to agencies and identify what still needs to be accomplished surrounding the recommendations. Additionally, members will have the opportunity to look at the recommendations that can be removed, as they have been completed. Mr. Copple noted that prescription drug use as an emerging trend for adolescents. Mr. Copple noted the variations of meth and other emerging trends around meth. Mr. Copple noted that a form will be sent out at the beginning of May to identify the areas that agencies feel should be the focal points, and that there may be issues from last year that were identified and not included in this year's recommendations.

Mr. Copple asked agencies if at the moment, any issues came to mind that are not addressed in the current recommendations. Councilwoman Hope McDonald Lonetree mentioned that specific outreach to Tribal communities should be included in the reporting.

### **LUNCH**

The Meth Task Force took a short break for lunch.

### **ASAP ACTIVITY AND METHAMPHETAMINE TASK FORCE**

Ms. Kreibich introduced Ms. Morgan Hester, Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP). ASAP Came about via recommendation in the plan of action and was founded through Executive Order in June. Ms. Hester noted that Mr. Dennis Burke chairs the Partnership. Ms. Hester noted that ASAP is an umbrella body and essentially a coordinating body. Ms. Hester noted the 4 Strategic Focus areas that ASAP has adopted for 2008. Ms. Hester noted the hard outcomes that have come about, for example the epi group is preparing a treatment capacity report for the Governor. Intelligence gaps and Tribal and non-tribal law enforcement planning meeting HIDTA intelligence center Project Investment Justification is in process and will allow ASAP serving as the clearinghouse for all legislative and budget proposals related to substance abuse. The PIJ

process will help to identify gaps and overlap relating to substance abuse issues throughout the state.

Ms. O'Connor also noted that many agency Directors serve on ASAP and the importance that members share with their Directors on the Meth Task Force activities. Ms. Hester referred members to their packets for a roster. She also noted that minutes and documents from the PIJ process are posted online.

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD**

Yuma Anti-Meth Coalition representatives Elizabeth Castaneda- Jackson, John Concannon and Gordon Block provided brief presentation on history of the Coalition and current activities. Ms. Jackson noted the agency representation of the Coalition. She mentioned the breakdown of subcommittees; prevention/education and youth, treatment, enforcement, victims, public relations, and fund raising. Ms. Jackson described the different activities and goals of each subcommittee. She described the MethSMART Program implemented in the community and funded through the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Jackson also noted the different ways the coalition works to create awareness and briefly touched on the Crystal Darkness Campaign. She noted that Yuma County is part of the Arizona Meth Project. Ms. Jackson highlighted the upcoming Meth Summit 2008. Mr. Block, chairman of Meth Task Force provided additional highlights related to meth awareness in the local communities and thanked the Task Force for allowing the Coalition to share today.

Ms. Ann Hendricks from the White Mountain Apache S.T.O.P. Coalition presented on the activities of the Coalition. She noted that she works as a clinician and as a member of the Coalition. Ms. Hendricks stated that she has taken a grassroots approach and invited community members to simply have a discussion. She noted the importance of providing incentives and ensuring that the meetings are flexible around the public's work schedule. Ms. Hendricks also commented that implementing spiritual components was successful in their approach. She noted the different Committees that were formed and discussed the different media awareness tactics that have been used. Ms. Hendricks referred members to document listing the different goals of the Committees. She communicated that the Coalition is in the community assessment phase. Ms. Hendricks discussed data collection techniques and the sharing of information. She noted the different ways that the Coalition has been able to overcome barriers. In responding to questions, Ms. Hendricks communicated that ITCA has provided support in data gathering. In responding to Mr. Tyrrell's question, Ms. Hendricks mentioned several of the successes the Coalition has had in terms of collaboration.

Ms. Kreibich referred members to the draft quarterly report that details outcomes for all coalitions in the packet of materials. Councilwoman Hope McDonald Lonetree noted the importance of hearing field updates, and mentioned the unique and tailored approach necessary to take in mobilizing rural and tribal communities. She also stated that in looking at the statewide picture, it is important to include input from the Tribal and Rural

communities. Mr. Copple noted that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has been working on a Tribal specific tools and resources that could be useful for communities.

Ms. O'Connor thanked the Coalitions for traveling to Phoenix to report out on the important work they are doing.

### **ACCESS TO RECOVERY REPORT**

Ms. Brown noted her new role as the Project Director of the Access to Recovery Project. Ms. Brown provided an overview and update of the ATR project. She stated that the Governor's Office received an \$8.3M grant from SAMHSA to implementing the grant Maricopa, Yavapai and Pima County Drug Courts. Ms. Brown noted that the groundwork and foundation is being built to provide and expand treatment services. Ms. Brown discussed the target population for the grant. She described how ATR works and how it builds off of the already existing drug courts. Several of the components of the grant include the screening of potential ATR clients through Drug Courts, client choice in treatment services, receives services based on a voucher system. Ms. Brown provided an overview of ATR Recovery Support Services, and the non-traditional, yet important resources that will be provided for clients. Ms. Brown noted the different key ATR positions at GOCYF, AOC, and PPP. She communicated the next steps that are being taken to firmly establish the Voucher Management System. Ms. Brown commented on the work being completed around outreach. Ms. Brown noted that she will ensure that ATR related information goes out to the Task Force to disseminate to local communities. In responding to Mr. Tyrrell's question, Ms. Brown stated that the focus of clients will be whether or not they are involved with meth and ensure that if the client is Title 19 eligible, Title 19 funding will be used before ATR funding. In responding to Mr. Warren question, Ms. Brown noted that licensing is important for the clinical services. In responding to Mr. Benchick's question, Ms. Brown explained the assessment depends on how the county generally goes about screening an assessment.

Ms. O'Connor acknowledged the hard work in AZ around the grant and the significant change in AZ.

### **CRYSTAL DARKNESS**

Commander Crockett provided an overview of the Crystal Darkness Campaign. He noted that the program will intend to use the power of the media to bring attention to the meth problem. He stated that the goal is stop individuals from trying meth in the first place and offer resources to individuals struggling with a meth addiction. He communicated that the documentary will demonstrate the destructive power of meth and towards the end will provide a message of hope. Mr. Crockett noted the different cities nationwide that have carried out such a campaign. Mr. Crockett showed members a DVD demonstrating the impact the campaign has had on other states. After the DVD was viewed, he noted that the other component of the campaign includes a call center, where individuals can receive information on treatment services. He stated that the

documentary will be aired in both Spanish and English on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2008. Mr. Crockett stated that the Steering Committee is prepared to send out the documentary to communities that have limited access to primary television stations.

In responding to Councilwoman Hope McDonald Lonetree's question regarding ensuring that Tribal treatment service providers are on the list at the call center, Mr. Crockett stated that Mr. Walsh is working to connect with all treatment communities throughout the state. Mr. Crockett noted that there will be a luncheon on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 11am-1pm and that all are invited. Mr. Crockett provided his contact information to the members.

### **STATEWIDE CONFERENCE-APRIL 29-30, 2008**

Ms. Kreibich and Ms. Brown referred members to their packets for a copy of the save the date card for the upcoming annual substance abuse conference. Ms. Kreibich noted that members will receive an e-mail with a link to a website to register for the conference. Ms. Brown noted that reservations for the Wigwam hotel are open. Mr. Tyrrell offered assistance with the conference.

In preparation for the conference, Ms. O'Connor noted that the Governor's Office may look into contacting DHS and COPE Behavioral Health Services to get a sense of emerging trends those treatment providers are seeing.

### **CALL TO PUBLIC**

Ms. O'Connor made a call to the public and there was no response.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Ms. Kreibich noted that the next meeting will be held towards the end of June and will most likely be held in Tucson at the DEA site. Councilwoman Hope McDonald Lonetree noted that it would helpful to have a meeting in the Northern part of Arizona.

### **ADJOURN**

Ms. O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.